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HANFORD MACNIDER.

Make a Job for a Jobless Vet

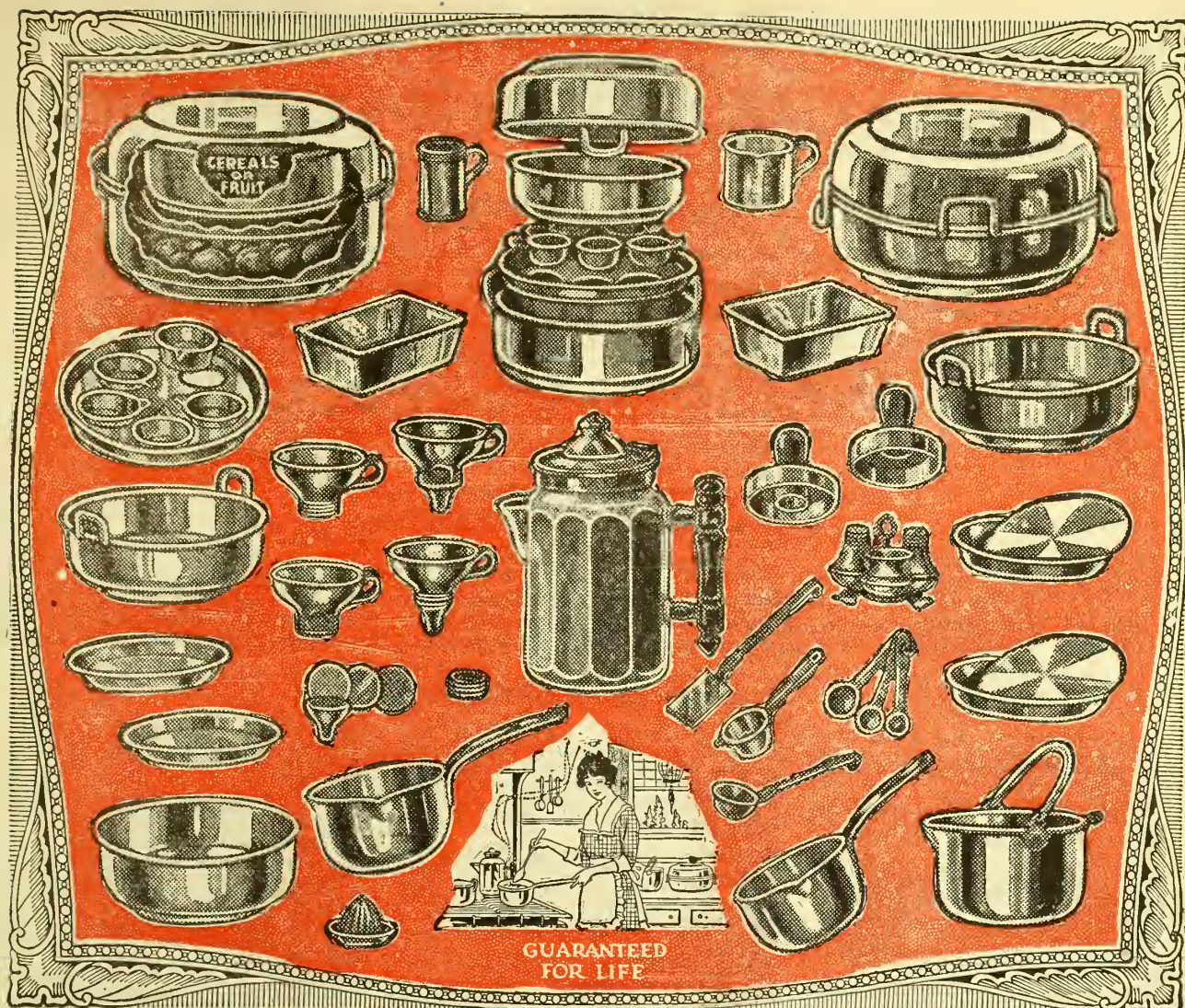


You know this bird!
He sent in his card;
He gets his Weekly

WE had to drop all names of members whose subscription cards we had not received before March first. It hurt us to do it, but it hurts the delinquent member more, we guess. When you meet him, remind him that he won't get the Weekly until we have received his subscription card. Some of the fellows seem to think that this card has got to be toted around like the old "dog" tag, or that it is an annual pass to the six-day bicycle races or the baseball grounds.

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MARCH 3, 1922

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Poison Gas and Poison Pens— Compensation's Foes Grow Desperate

By Philip Von Blon

BONUS PLAN DRAWS FLOOD OF PROTESTS FROM ALL SECTIONS

Ex-Service Men Call It In-
defensible and a Peril
to Business.

WANT JOBS, NOT CHARITY

HERE is a study in cause and effect. The cause is explained in the affidavit printed below. The effect is described in the accompanying headlines from newspapers. The affidavit tells how one brokerage office compelled all but three of its 250 employes to write letters in opposition to the Adjusted Compensation Bill. How many other letters now being sent to Congressmen are the expression of similar artificial sentiment, inspired by fear or selfish personal interests?

An Ex-Service Man's Affidavit

FOR two and one-half years I have been employed by —, Exchange Place, New York City, dealers in stocks, members of the New York Stock Exchange.

On Wednesday, February 8, 1922, at about 4:45 p. m., the head of the department in which I was employed, requested that each employe write four letters in opposition to the Adjusted Compensation Bill now pending in Congress. He requested that one letter be addressed to President Harding, one to each of the United States Senators of the State in which the employe lived and one to the Representative of the Congressional district in which the employe lived. A typewritten form of the letter he desired written was passed around among the employes. This typewritten form letter was on ordinary bond paper and not on the firm's letterhead, as most other memoranda usually were. The name of the firm did not appear on the form letter. The same action, I learned later, was taken in the other departments of —.

Each employe was advised to write the four letters and to hand them in on the

following morning to the department heads. Each employe was told to leave his letters unsealed, as the firm would seal them, put stamps on them and mail them. For the convenience of employes, it was announced, the firm would look up the names of the Senators and Representatives of their respective districts.

I heard one of the department heads remark, while employes were discussing the instructions, "You fellows had better write these letters tonight if you want to keep your jobs." Naturally after these orders were given out there was a lot of comment and many arguments among the employes, and from expressions I believe that fully sixty percent considered it was unjust and unfair to ask them to write any such letters in the way it had been done. They considered they had been deprived of their rights, as they realized that if the firm's wishes were not complied with they would be discharged, if not immediately, at the first trivial offense they committed. Despite their feelings, however, most of them figured they could not afford to disobey

the implied command. Many of them were married and felt that it would be hopeless to try to refuse to write the letters under the circumstances.

Out of approximately 250 employes, three did not write the four letters requested of them. I am one of the three. I openly declined to write the letters, and, to be consistent, offered my resignation to take effect at the end of the customary period of two weeks. The reply was that my "offer of the two weeks' notice was not appreciated" and "that I might go when I wanted." The firm made no effort to ascertain the reason for my refusal to write the letters.

Sworn to and subscribed
before Joseph T. Cooney,
Notary Public, New York
Register's No. 2298, February
11, 1922.

(Who will help the man who made
this affidavit get another job? Offers to
help him may be communicated in confidence
to the editor of this magazine.)

FOR more than three years the selfish financial and business interests of the country had been speaking softly and kindly, and even regretfully, against any adjustment of compensation for the ex-service men of the World War. It seemed best to them to pursue this policy toward the "gallant boys" because they felt reasonably certain that by chicanery and pressure at the right spot they could prevent adjusted compensation for ex-service men from becoming a serious issue.

The interests opposed to veterans' compensation, including the pocket-book patriots, the profiteers, main-

tained an air of dignified detachment, while the Adjusted Compensation Bill was being anesthetized last July. How easy it was! Rip Van Winkle legislation! Simply put it on a shelf! No hard feelings, you know.

But the Adjusted Compensation Bill refused to stay on the shelf. The conscience of the nation has been bringing it day by day nearer the exact center of the stage of our national life. That development continued until even President Harding took cognizance of overwhelming public sentiment and let it be known that he regarded his administration as pledged to pass a compensation bill, qualifying his stand, however,

with stipulations about taxation and revenue.

As the issue neared the center of the stage the foes of adjusted compensation woke up. The pesky Legion bill couldn't be killed by kindness—kissed to death—after all. "Very well," they said, "we'll kill it in cold blood."

The result has been, in the last months, a tremendous display of force, of organized opposition to the Adjusted Compensation Bill, which has manifested itself in several well-recognized campaigns. These have two objects: First, to try to overcome the decision of senators and representatives in favor of early passage of the bill; second, to

try to reverse the overwhelming public sentiment in favor of the measure.

This mighty drive to kill the Adjusted Compensation Bill has been centered in these five efforts:

1. The Washington lobbyists of banking, trade and commerce organizations have been bombarding Congress and trying to line up the membership of the local organizations they represent throughout the country into a wall of opposition to the compensation bill.

2. Anti-compensation newspapers have been conducting, in news and editorial columns, a violent campaign of propaganda against compensation, largely featured by the inspired writings of Washington correspondents who belong to the battalion of "death-to-the-bonus."

3. Throughout the country pressure is being used and wires are being pulled to work up a campaign of letter writing against the compensation bill. The affidavit published at the head of this article shows one phase of this effort.

4. The old tactics of using the disabled men as a shield, of shedding crocodile tears of sympathy, have been resorted to by many of the opponents of compensation in an effort to deceive public opinion.

5. Many and various forms of unpopular taxes have been proposed and exploited by enemies of the compensation bill in the effort to alarm and line up against the bill the interests and groups opposed to the taxes.

The first of these efforts has frankly been conducted to "defeat the bonus at any cost." The referendum conducted by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States on the options of the compensation bill was one of its earliest manifestations. The national chamber distributed to its affiliated trade and commercial bodies in practically all the sizable cities and towns of the country a large booklet purporting to give arguments pro and con on four questions relating the benefits provided in the compensation bill. This booklet, cleverly prepared, giving an appearance of fair play, was designed to secure from each affiliated trade body an expression of disapproval for the Legion's bill as a whole.

As this is written the national chamber is about to announce the result of its referendum. It may be assumed that this will be unfavorable to the Legion's bill, but the referendum has been by no means as uniformly successful as the national chamber anticipated. Voting among the members of the individual chambers has revealed surprising friendliness for the Adjusted Compensation Bill.

The bill has been indorsed by such influential organizations as the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, said to be the largest in the world, the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, and chambers in Omaha, Neb., Kansas City, Mo., Pittsburgh, Pa., Portland, Ore., Seattle, Wash., Des Moines, Ia., Fargo, N. D., Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla. And the very latest word is that the bill has been indorsed by the Chamber of Commerce of Marion, O., President Harding's home city.

The Chamber of Commerce of Toledo, O., is one of a number of chambers which refused to vote in the referendum of the national body on the ground that the questions being voted on did not

give an opportunity for a fair expression of sentiment.

The American Bankers' Association and the National Association of Manufacturers have been equally active in opposing the bill. Both have sent from Washington appeals to their members all over the country urging energetic steps to help kill the measure, particularly by bringing pressure to bear upon senators and representatives. Scores of lesser bodies have been doing the same thing, among them the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association, the National Credit Men's Association, the National Wholesale Grocers' Association, the National Association of Finishers of Cotton Fabrics, the National Association of

Brass Manufacturers, the National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association, the Cocoa and Chocolate Manufacturers' Association, the International Milk Dealers' Association, the Eastern Millinery Association and the Manufacturing Chemists' Association.

It should be borne in mind that many of the organizations opposing the Legion's bill consist mostly of a few highly-paid executives and a staff of lobbyists and propagandists at Washington. The individual members of the organization scattered through the country have had little to do with initiating or carrying on the anti-compensation drives, but in Washington the interlocked executives and lobbyists plan and decree and ask the outsiders to tag along, to play the game. These lobbyists in Washington have a close community of interests. They work together. Just now they are concentrating upon individual senators and Congressmen every bit of influence, every bit of pressure they can muster. They plan and instigate unpopular tax proposals in connection with compensation to start backfires of sentiment. They are employing all the tricks of the professional to discredit the Legion's bill and those advocating it.

In many cases these methods have caused protests from within their own organizations, members remonstrating because lobbyists are making unauthorized efforts not in accord with the sentiments of membership. An example is the propaganda of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association, concerning which C. H. Richardson of the Hord Color Products Co. of Sandusky, O., writes as follows:

A few days ago the following telegram came to my attention: "Republican House caucus meets evening January 26th to take action on Soldiers' Bonus Bill. Very important you wire your Congressman protesting enactment of measure, cost of which may reach five billion dollars."

This was signed by John I. Tierney, Secretary, the Manufacturing Chemists' Association, 540 Woodward Bldg., Washington, D. C. I personally replied by letter to Mr. Tierney protesting the association's, or rather, his, course which was being pursued, on the grounds that I knew of no action which the association had taken in which they were to follow up with propaganda against the measure, as the association is organized solely for the promotion of the chemical industry in the United States. My letter was returned with insulting remarks added.

G. W. Campbell, of Westbrook, Me., writes of the tactics of another association:

The Mail Advertisers' Association of North America made a sad mistake in sending their letter to my agency, inasmuch as all here are much in favor of the bill. I feel that the people should know the facts, inasmuch as the Mail Advertisers' Association wish their name kept secret. This is only one of the underhanded methods being used against the ex-service man today.

The letter referred to by Mr. Campbell contains this request:

Will you please write and ask your friends to write both your senators and member of House about as per recommended letter below, using your own words, and without mentioning our name. A letter re-

(Continued on page 21)



This billboard proves an effective means of letting the town know it has a post

He Who Motors May Read

IF you ever happen to flivver down the principal street of Koppel, Pennsylvania, and miss the billboard maintained by J. Harvey Marshall Post, it will be because you are wearing blinders. Rudolph Kohs, post publicity officer, says that hundreds of automobiles pass the billboard every day, and he doesn't attempt to count all the pedestrians who see it. "Two rainproof bulletins are in the lower corners," he adds, "and the date of meetings is written in a space provided for the purpose. A-1 lumber and automobile paint were used in making the sign, and a bill of less than eight dollars was turned in for expenses. The sign was put up by the post publicity officer assisted by the sergeant-at-arms. There are 60 eligibles in Koppel. Our paid-up membership last year was 44; so far this year it is 55. There are five among the missing; it ought to be easy with the state membership campaign now on—leave it to us."

"SAY," remarked the man on the bunk by my side that warm summer afternoon, "do you want to get right home?"

Did I want to get home? Me with four service stripes on my arm, who had been watching boats laden with troops going out of the harbor every day for two months!

"Of course I wanta go home. Kiddin'?"

"No, I got some straight dope. Slip over to Barracks A66, Section 15. Ask for Captain Murray and tell him you're a casual officer and that you would like to take casuals home as you are one of the casual-est guys that ever hit Brest. I just been over and signed up."

I broke a world's record getting to Barracks A66. When I presented myself before a tired-looking captain, a paper was shoved at me to sign. Had I ever had charge of casuals before? All right, they would notify me.

This was so customary in France that I soon forgot about it. For three days boats steamed out of sight as usual; but nothing happened to me, and I began to have visions of a third Christmas dinner in France, when one morning an orderly came into the hut bawling out my name. I was wanted at once at Barracks A66.

Eagerly I dashed over. My hopes were realized, for I had been put in charge of Casual Company No. 9999. I could pick out a medico and one other officer to go with me. The service records were handed to me, declared to be all made up; the men, so the captain said, had been paid up to date. I would merely have to get them outfitted and ready to leave. They were in Section 27; if we hurried we might get the *Levi* which was to sail in three days.

To say I was happy is verbiage. I danced in ecstasy to my own hut, chose a medical officer and a young Southerner named Brown to go along. Together we hurried over to Section 27, visions of a transport and New York harbor in seven days seeping through our brains. Happy did not express our condition of mind. And then as we reached the home of our future charges came the first shock. They were gentlemen of a dark color.

Brown was all for backing out at this point, but I insisted that he stick by the ship. A Southerner, I felt, might be useful in the future. I set to work getting order out of chaos.

"Any of you men non-coms?"

Everyone looked at everyone else.

"No, sah, I ain't no non-com."

"Well, is anyone here a non-com?"

Blank looks on black faces followed. At last some one piped up:

"Jelly Roll is, go git Jelly Roll, Sam. He's over to thuh Y."

At first no one stirred, everybody suggesting that the other man, "go git Jelly Roll."

Finally, however, several of them plodded away and at last returned with the funniest soldier I had



I broke a world's record getting to Barracks A66

Casuals

By J. G. B. Morse

ever seen. His whole carriage seemed to indicate that he had spent most of his life as an end man in a minstrel show. One look at his fat, short body as it swung along in his uneven gait was enough to cause laughter. We held our faces straight with difficulty.

"Are you a non-com?"

"Well, nossuh, that is leastways, Ah wuz a non-com. Ah ain't no mo' cause Ah bin redooiced."

Came then shock number two. My charges, so it seemed, were all men who had been court-martialed. As a result there was not a non-com in the crowd.

However, it did not take us long to see that Jelly Roll was the acknowledged leader. Whether it was a crap game, or a banjo serenade, or a midnight trip to Brest without passes, he was sure to be the ringleader. We made him a temporary sergeant—whatever that is—and started to work. There was work, we found, to be done.

For, despite the remark that the service records were in order, we discovered that the men had not been paid for six months. And we were without a typewriter or a clerk to make the payrolls out with. Meanwhile general orders began pouring in upon us with bewildering rapidity, every one of which demanded some form or list to be made up on a machine.

I returned to the tired captain in hopes of getting help; but a broken-down old mill of a typewriter was the best he could do. They were overworked themselves and could not spare a single man. We must shift for ourselves, and this we did with Jelly Roll's help by finding a man who could pound a typewriter with two fingers. At last the payroll was made out and the word went forth that the men would be paid. There was a wild chorus of delight as I ordered the men to line up alphabetically. To my sorrow

the alphabet meant less than nothing to them and it was only after an hour's sorting that we finally got them in any kind of order.

"Johnson, Henry J."

No answer.

"Johnson, Henry J."

Still no answer.

"JOHNSON, HENRY J.!"

And then from way down at the end of the line by the W's a small voice.

"Yassuh."

"What are you doing down there? You belong up here in the J's."

"Yassuh, yas, Lootenant, Ah had ter go ter mah bunk foh somethin' an' Ah couldn't find mah place agin."

"All right, step up to the table."

"Johnson, Henry J., owes Government \$4.65."

"Lootenant, dey's somethin' wrong here, Ah bin wukkin' regular—"

"Yes, but you've been court-martialed, haven't you?"

"No suh, Ah ain't nevah bin—"

"Well, it says so on your service record. There's the date and everything. Next man!"

"Jefferson, Henry Clay, owes Government \$4.83."

"Lootenant, dey's somethin' wrong, Ah'm a little short."



"Yassuh, a puhmit"

"Haven't you been court-martialed?"

"No suh, Ah ain't, Lootenant—"

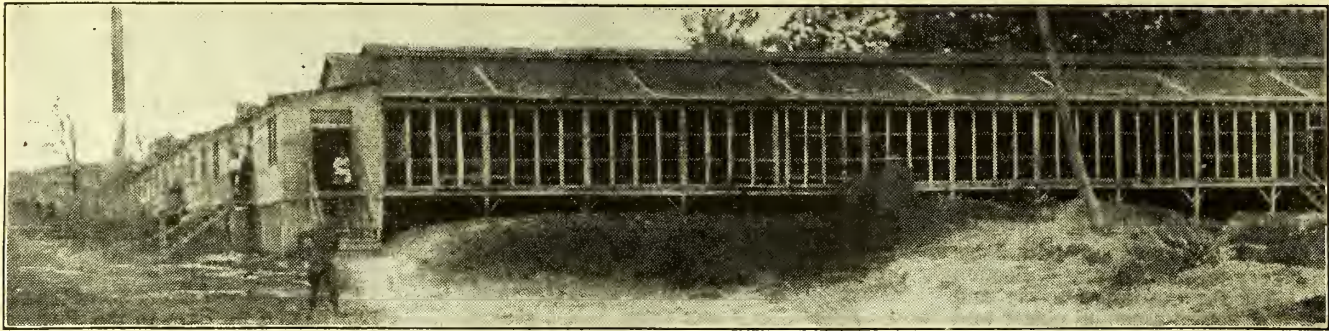
And so on. Only two men actually received any money, the rest had all led, so they stated, blameless lives, and were unable to understand why they received no money. They protested their innocence in violent terms, as though Jelly Roll himself had taken the money to shoot craps with.

Then came orders that the company must go through the delouser. As everyone knows the process of the delouser, it is needless to go into details except to remind the reader that as the subject to be deloused undressed he was given a card with the number of garments that he had turned in written thereon. Presenting this at the exit after he had been deloused he was to receive a like number of clean garments. Knowing my charges as I did, I shuddered for them, especially as another colored company marched up and entered with mine. No officers were al-

(Continued on page 16)



"Mah eyes is weak, Ah gotta wear dis hat"



New buildings must replace flimsy structures such as this—the Fox Hills (N. Y.) Hospital

The Hospital Program Crisis

Will the Government Be Able To Provide Enough Beds for the 35,000 Patients It Will Have in 1925?

ONE year ago Congress appropriated \$18,600,000 to provide 6,000 new beds in government hospitals for disabled ex-service men. As yet not a new hospital has been completed nor a single new bed made available under that appropriation. In the meantime the hospital situation, which has been deplorable ever since the Armistice, has grown steadily worse.

Lack of foresight, postponements of construction, skepticism of facts regarding the growing number of men needing hospitalization, utilization of makeshift buildings beyond any excusable time limit—these are the factors which have produced the present hospital crisis. The delayed completion of the twenty hospital construction projects under the \$18,600,000 appropriation of a year ago is only one element in this crisis. The main factors in the present situation and the outlook for the future are these:

Today there are 30,145 government patients in hospitals. Of these, 21,132 are in hospitals controlled and operated by the Government. The remainder, 9,013, are in contract hospitals, mostly private, profit-making institutions, or in state insane asylums.

One year ago, largely due to exposure of conditions by The American Legion, the Government promised to take ex-service men patients out of these contract hospitals. The

number of ex-service men in these hospitals today is practically the same as it was one year ago. While the Government acknowledges that most of them are in unsuitable surroundings which will prevent or retard their recovery, it has been unable to provide

its own hospitals to permit the removal of the contract patients.

The 21,132 men now in government hospitals utilize practically the full capacity of those hospitals and before more men can be admitted, buildings must be enlarged or new ones built.

The number of patients is growing larger each month. A year and a half ago there were 8,394 tuberculous ex-service men in all hospitals. Today there are 11,698. A year and a half ago there were 5,970 neuro-psychiatric cases in the hospitals. Today there are 8,833. The rates of increase for patients of these classes will continue for several years. In 1925, it is expected, the peak will come. Then 35,000 men probably will be in hospitals, 5,000 more than the present total.

But before 1925, 11,000 of the Government's existing hospital beds will have to be abandoned. Mostly these represent U. S. Public Health Service hospitals, held under leases which were made during the war and are about to expire. For the most part, also, these beds are in temporary buildings constructed during the war, structures thrown up hastily with two-by-four scantlings and plaster-board. Seven of these hospitals, sheltering at present 3,922 men, are scheduled for abandonment during 1922.

(Cont. on page 18)

Treasury Department Consultants' Report Illustrates the Delays in Hospitalization

STATUS OF HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION UNDER THE \$18,600,000 APPROPRIATION OF A YEAR AGO—NONE COMPLETED

(From report of Treasury Hospital Consultants, Feb. 13, 1922.)

Hospital	Amount and Date of Allotment, 1921	No. of Beds and Type	Work Started	Completion Expected
U. S. P. H. S. 63, Lake City, Fla.	\$300,000, May 3	100 TB	July 20	March, 1922
U. S. P. H. S. 50, Prescott, Ariz.	\$600,000, May 3	422 TB	June 4	May, 1922
Prov. Hosp. Ft. Logan H. Root, Little Rock, Ark...	\$250,000, May 3	257 NP	June 28	April, 1922
U. S. P. H. S. 55, Ft. Bayard, N. M...	\$850,000, May 28	250 TB	Nov. 14	June, 1922
U. S. P. H. S. 42, Perryville, Md....	\$500,000, May 28	300 NP	Sept. 19	May, 1922
Prov. Hosp. 1, Ft. Walla Walla, Wash.....	\$495,000, May 28	165 TB	Aug. 15	May, 1922
U. S. P. H. S. 27, Alexandria, La....	\$60,000, June 15	0 TB	June 23	Feb., 1922
Soldiers Home, Milwaukee, Wis....	\$1,400,000, June 27	500 TB	Dec. 21	Aug., 1922
Soldiers Home, Dayton, O.	\$750,000, June 27	250 TB	Dec. 21	June, 1922
Soldiers Home, Marion, Ind.	\$100,000, June 27	80 NP	Feb. 6, 1922	.....
Central New England Sanitarium, Rutland, Mass....	\$815,000, June 27	220 TB	Dec. 5	June, 1922
U. S. P. H. S. 62, Augusta, Ga.	\$818,300, Aug. 2	265 NP	.....	Oct., 1922
U. S. P. H. S. 60, Oteen, N. C.	\$748,000, Aug. 2	200 TB	.....	Sept., 1922
Ft. McKenzie, Wyo...	\$107,000, Aug. 17	242 NP	Aug. 30	March, 1922
Catholic Orphanage, New York City....	\$2,750,000, Sept. 30	1,000 NP	Dec. 12	June, 1922
Remodeling, Negro Hospital, Tuskegee, Ala....	\$600,000			
	\$2,250,000, Nov. 16	230 TB	.....	Dec., 1922
		270 NP		
Palo Alto, Cal.	\$1,400,000, Nov. 16	500 NP	.....	Oct., 1918
Western Pennsylvania	\$1,000,000, Nov. 16	250 TB	.....	(Site not acquired)
Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo.	\$1,000,000, Nov. 16	250 Gen	.....	(Site acquired Jan. 9, 1922)
Metropolitan District, New York City....	\$1,000,000, Nov. 16	250 TB	.....	(Site not acquired)

NP—Neuro-Psychiatric TB—Tuberculosis

Carl and Oscar Potter Come Home



The bodies of Carl and Oscar Potter are returned to the little South Dakota home from which they went forth three years ago to serve their country

TWO of the men who went forth from Chamberlain, South Dakota, to fight their country's battles, died in France. They were brothers — Carl and Oscar Potter, sons of Mrs. O. L. Potter. Carl and Oscar came home the other day, home to the little house from which they had gone out more than three years before in company with another brother who served fourteen months overseas and returned safely. Still a fourth brother was on the point of entering the service when the war ended.

The funerals of Carl and Oscar Potter were in charge of Potter Post of the Legion, which met the bodies at the train and provided a firing squad and bugler for the ceremony that followed.

"Our house is small," declares Mrs. Potter, "but when my sons were living I had a place for them, and when they were returned I had them brought to the home that they left to go to war.



Escort of John R. Lapp Post of Eden, Texas, awaiting the arrival of the body of the soldier for whom the post is named

We kept them three nights and two and a half days. It seemed hard, but I guess the higher our reward the more we have to suffer."

John R. Lapp Post of Eden, Texas, also recently presided at the return and burial of the body of the soldier for which the post is named—a private in the 325th Infantry. An interesting detail of the ceremony was the fact that the post used an improvised caisson—a farm wagon shortened up as close as possible, with six horses hitched in trace, no single trees, stretches or double trees being used.

The task of returning America's overseas dead is now nearly finished. Approximately 1,200 bodies remain to be returned, but it is not likely that the last soldier will come home before the beginning of summer. It is impossible to say how many funerals the Legion has taken charge of, though 75 percent is regarded as a safe estimate.

Keeping Step with the Legion

and The American Legion Auxiliary

The Greatest Problem

THE unemployment crisis is still the supreme problem facing the Legion. A few months ago, about the time the first leaves began to fall, the park bench brigade was forced to seek some kind of indoor shelter, and many good people, gazing at the suddenly deserted benches, said to themselves: "How wonderful! The unemployment problem has been solved!" The present outlook, however, is that a few weeks from now, when the frostbite is out of those same park benches, the army of outdoor sleepers will be as large as it was last fall—perhaps larger. For the army of the unemployed has more replacements than casualties, meaning by casualty in this instance the fortunate soldier who gets a job.

The employment problem is one involving our whole economic structure. Of course, the Legion is now supposedly pulling that economic structure down on its own head in its efforts to get the Adjusted Compensation Bill passed, even though the passage of this bill would be the greatest possible boon to the unemployed veteran. Its benefits would be felt immediately, for no matter how long deferred payments might be under the cash plan (and no one can blame a jobless man for choosing that option, least advantageous though it may be to the man not in need of immediate aid), the Legion, through its individual posts, would forthwith set up some sort of loan-making machinery to veterans in desperate circumstances, taking their compensation eligibility as security. Somebody is going to do this anyway if the bill passes, and too many of the somebodies will be unscrupulous parties whose chief concern will be to adjust their own compensation at the expense of the veteran.

But though the basic problem may not be the Legion's concern as an organization, it is decidedly the Legion's business to alleviate the unemployment situation all it can wherever it can—and that is exactly what the Legion is doing.

Concretely, all Legion unemployment activity may be summed up as follows:

1. Canvassing the local situation thoroughly for jobs and seeing that available jobs are assigned to deserving veterans.
2. Creating new kinds of jobs and filling them with veterans.
3. Providing food, shelter and clothing to unemployed veterans while they are looking for work.

This magazine has published numerous examples of how posts are going about fulfilling this three-fold obligation, but there is always room for other examples. Donaldson-Walker Post of Cushing, Oklahoma, has obtained preference for veterans from the contractors in charge of the erection of a new school building. The post had earlier accomplished the same result on a road-building project. In this case the jobs

were already there—the Legion simply tried to get them filled by veterans, tried to and did it. Another Oklahoma outfit—Charles Milam Post of Chelsea—obtained from the local Chamber of Commerce and civic and fraternal organizations pledges that they would give ex-service men preference in any jobs that might develop.

Missouri posts have been urged by department headquarters to support a \$60,000,000 road bond issue on which ex-service men will have preference of employment. The Federal Government also has a \$75,000,000 road-building project of which \$50,000,000 is already

if the post has one on its list to give him. The Birmingham Automobile Club is co-operating with the Legion by using unemployed veterans to boom its membership, and apparently the plan is working to the satisfaction of both parties.

It Will Be Up To—

PENDING the printing and distribution of the service census blanks approved by department adjutants and commanders at the Indianapolis conference (printing a million or so separate blanks is no overnight job), the whole Legion is getting set for the jump-off. Once the blanks go out, they will go to department headquarters and thence to the posts and eventually will gravitate down to the individual Legionnaire.

There has never been a Legion campaign in which the direct responsibility devolved so clearly on the individual member. He will be given a bunch of blanks and assigned a definite district to cover. If that district is not covered at the expiration of a proper period of time, that Legionnaire will have some heavy explaining to do. There is little doubt, however, but that the member will plunge into the job all the harder just because it *does* give him a definite, clear-cut task to perform.

Ohio is now completing a state-wide census on its own account in connection with the recently-passed state compensation law. It has canvassed the State thoroughly and has sought to reach every ex-service man where he lives. The Ohio Legion has scarcely begun to reap the benefits of this campaign; the benefits will grow through the year. The work was prosecuted unselfishly and regardless of whether the man interviewed was a Legion member or not—which will be the precise attitude of the whole Legion in the nationwide service census.

Illinois, too, has something very like a census on its hands in preparing for the passage of a state compensation law next November. The State has prepared blanks to be filled out listing the complete service records of Illinois's service men, and the Legion is lending every assistance in getting the blanks properly filled out. Incidentally, if you live in Illinois and haven't received your blank, state headquarters of the Legion, at 324 South Sixth Street, Chicago, will be glad to send it to you.

Just Some More Ideas

BACK in our childhood days, which is longer ago than we like to think, we played a game in which the party who was It said, "I've got a bright idea." Whoever was addressed would then inquire "What is it?" and that's as much as we can remember. We suppose there was some forfeit system connected with it if the individual claiming

(Continued on page 25)

Legion Calendar

Unemployment

The supreme problem confronting the Legion today.

Community Co-operation

Your post and your town—what do they mean to each other?

Service Census

Be ready to jump in when your department headquarters gives the word.

Auxiliary

Is there a unit for your mother and your wife and your sister to join, and have they joined?

Dues

If you haven't come through yet you're out after taps—that's all.

available, and the Department of Agriculture will eventually determine how this is to be allotted. Conferences with representatives of state highway departments must first be held, so that this appropriation will not be immediately available as a job producer. The situation is worth watching by local posts, however.

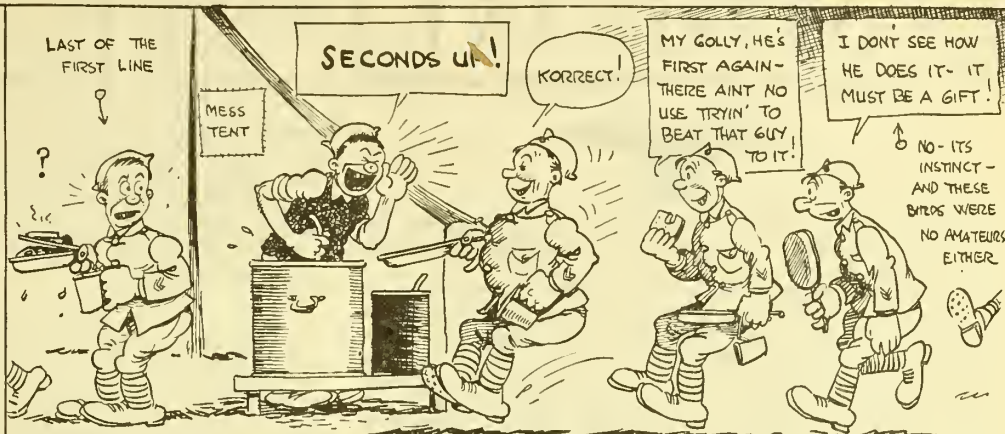
Odd-job exchanges are still proving effective means of making jobs grow where none grew before. In fact, the odd-job business should begin to pick up with the approach of spring. Spring is the traditional season for sprucing up around the old place, and there are enough experienced policers out of work this season to insure the best sprucing up America ever had if they were all put on the job. The thing is worth a National House-Cleaning Week—there is no reason why a house-cleaning week cannot be held in every town, whether it is the same week or not. The local post could guarantee to see that plenty of help was available, and could establish fair rates of pay.

Birmingham (Alabama) Post operates a receiving station for unemployed veterans where a man goes in empty-handed and comes out clutching a job,

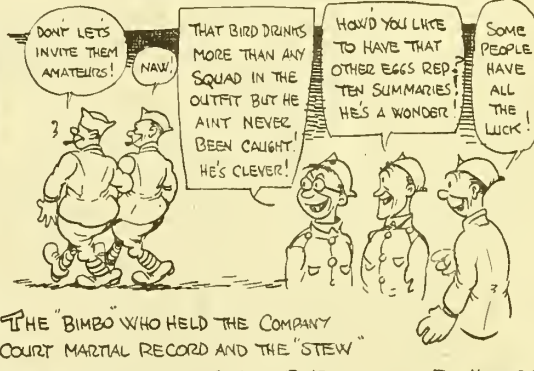
Our Oldtime Idols

By Wallgren

WHO DID YOU ADMIRE MOST IN THE SERVICE?
IT WASN'T THE GENERALS - OR RANK - OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT?
No, IT WAS THE BIRDS WHO "GOT AWAY WITH IT" THAT EXCITED OUR AMBITIONS.
WAS IT ADMIRATION - OR ENVY - OR WHAT? FAME - OR NOTORIETY?

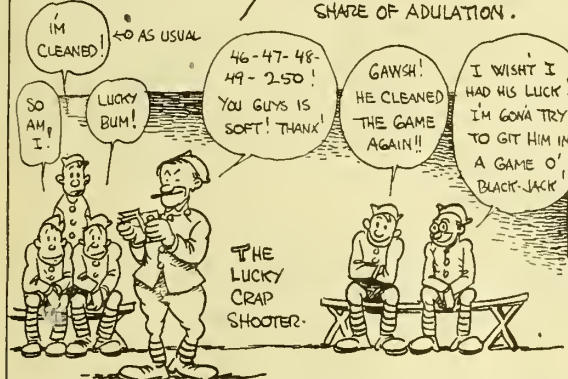


THE CHOW-HOUND WHO WAS ALWAYS FIRST IN LINE FOR SECONDS ENJOYED A PROUD DISTINCTION.

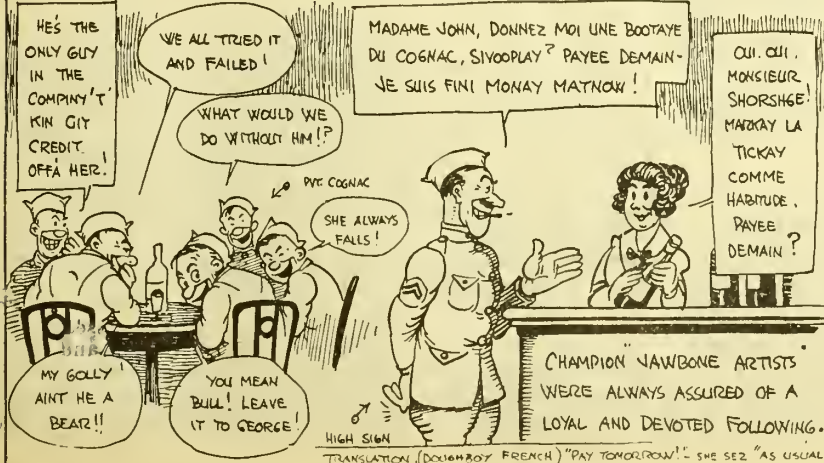
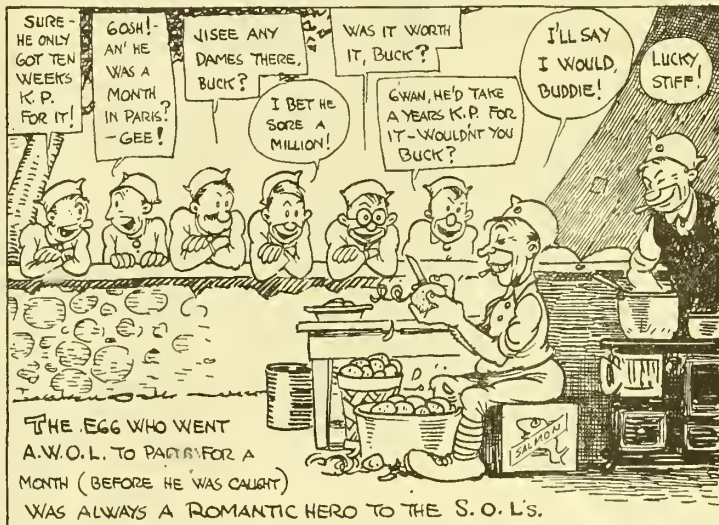


THE CO. CLERK HAS BEEN USING HIS TOOTHBRUSH TO CLEAN HIS RIFLE AGAIN

TALENTED EXPERTS IN PICTURESQUE PROFANITY ALWAYS CAME IN FOR A FULL SHARE OF ADULATION.



HE ALWAYS INSPIRED US WITH THE SPIRIT OF EMULATION.



EDITORIAL



For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.—*Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.*

Where There's a Will There's a Way

THE letter which President Harding on February 16th wrote to Representative Fordney, the author of the Adjusted Compensation Bill, commits the President more firmly than ever to the passage of that bill. At Cincinnati, in a political speech a short time before his election, Mr. Harding practically pledged himself to obtain the enactment of an adjusted compensation bill. His latest letter is the seal upon his pre-election pledge.

But in his letter Mr. Harding expresses doubt that the money for carrying out the terms of the bill can be provided at this time under the revenue plans proposed. As an alternative, he suggests a form of taxation known to have so many enemies that it is hardly likely Congress will adopt it. The enemies of compensation gleefully applaud the President's utterance. They see it as the herald of another postponement. They believe it creates in Congress an enthusiastic deadlock, in which the President, most Senators and most Representatives will get credit for good intentions, but in which the compensation bill itself will simply fade away. To these opponents, we say that the compensation bill cannot be killed with tears or expression of regret. The result only will be judged.

The excuse that the money cannot be found will be unacceptable. If England, France, Italy and Belgium can pay compensation to their veterans the United States, the richest nation in the world, can also. If the United States can lop off luxury and excess profits taxes amounting to \$830,000,000 a year it can raise \$200,000,000 a year to pay compensation.

There has been much talk in recent weeks of methods of raising the money. Upon these The American Legion has no official opinion. But it has an official opinion that the money can be raised. Here is a little table, reprinted from a previous issue, which says it can, and it shouts louder than the cries of all those who say it can't:

	Population	National Wealth	National Debt	Per Capita Debt	Has Compensation Been Paid
France.....	40,000,000	\$92,500,000,000	\$50,000,000,000	\$1,218	YES
Great Britain..	50,000,000	130,000,000,000	39,314,000,000	800	YES
Italy.....	40,000,000	35,000,000,000	18,000,000,000	450	YES
Belgium.....	7,500,000	12,000,000,000	4,500,000,000	615	YES
United States..	105,710,620	350,000,000,000	*13,000,000,000	125	NO

*Not including \$11,000,000,000, the principal and interest on loans to the Allies. If it be assumed that these loans will not be repaid, the national debt of the United States would be \$24,000,000,000, the per capita debt approximately \$220.

The Unbuilt Hospitals

OVER a year ago Congress appropriated \$18,600,000 for hospitals for the war's disabled to meet an emergency. Ex-service men were getting wholly inadequate medical attention, they were suffering, they were dying. Lives were at stake. Despite the necessity for speed none of the hospitals has yet been completed. The sites for some of them are still unselected, as is shown on a chart printed elsewhere in this issue. There have been many reasons for the delay and it is not possible to point your finger and say, "There lies the blame." But the hospitals are not completed. And in the

meantime ex-service men are still getting medical attention which is wholly inadequate. The emergency still exists. Lives still are at stake.

Another measure is before Congress, the Langley Bill, appropriating \$16,000,000 for more hospitals to meet the rising tide of disabled. It provides that Director Forbes of the Veterans' Bureau shall have full charge and responsibility for the erection of the hospitals it authorizes. Director Forbes promises to break records in hospital building if he is given this authorization. He should have it. Upon his shoulders rests the responsibility of caring for the disabled; upon him the criticism will fall if the disabled are not cared for. He is entitled to a free hand.

After Three Years

A MAN from Earth who left these parts three years ago for a visit to Mars would find the old place changed quite a bit if he returned today. He would probably have considerable difficulty in recognizing an organization which in 1919 was enjoying a dubious infancy, but which is now approaching the full vigor of maturity. "Is that the Legion?" he would say. "Why, when I went away he hadn't even learned to walk."

A human being develops much more between the zero hour of birth and his third anniversary than he does in any subsequent three-year period. In those first three years, too, he has to fight a harder battle with all the ills that flesh is heir to than at any later time. At three months his future is no better than an even bet; at thirty-six months some kind of future is almost a sure thing.

The Legion has struggled through the perils of infancy; some malady more deadly than chickenpox would now be required to make it a casualty. It has its growth. It has become a man and put away childish things. Its future is in its own hands, and they are a pretty capable pair of hands. Its work is cut out for it, but the Legion was cut out for that work. The man come back from Mars would have to admit that it was a likely-looking outfit.

A Letter to Your Editor

"WRITING a letter to the papers" has become a recognized national indoor sport. The Adjusted Compensation Bill has become the league in which letter-writers are striving for the championship. Almost any newspaper now carries daily a number of letters on the subject. Invariably they refer to compensation as a "bonus," and almost invariably they harp on the nation's debt of service, which never can be repaid, rather than the easily settled debt for time, which, whether confiscated by the Government or volunteered by the person, was always underpaid.

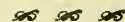
The universal acceptance of the word "bonus," in itself furnishes an excuse to write to the papers. Where a preponderance of such literary evidence appears, an editor is bound to accept the word, just as an editor will accept as the true sentiment of his readers a preponderance of letters denouncing the same "bonus." The blame for a newspaper's policy as often falls on its readers as on its editor, merely because the editor considers every letter he gets as a straw, blowing down the wind of public opinion.

Start a hurricane, carrying innumerable straws!

A Fable

ONCE upon a time there lived a citizen of the United States. An international conflagration known as the World War involved his country. He could not go to the war, but throughout the conflict this man kept his living expenses down to about fifty cents a day. He allowed himself, in addition, \$30 a month for such luxuries as tobacco, Liberty Bonds, insurance and support of dependents. The rest of his income he gave to the Government.

Moral: He is the only man in the world who has the right to call adjusted compensation "the bonus."



Senator Watson of Georgia calls attention to the fact that in 1824 Congress voted to Lafayette a bonus of \$200,000 in cash and 200,000 acres of land in Florida. We paid the debt to Lafayette and history doesn't record that it was a price on his patriotism, either.

Your Post and Your Town

These Outfits Are Not Forgetting the Legion's Obligation to the Community

A Six-Ply Boost

BALL-KIRCH POST, of North Plainfield, New Jersey, has done much for North Plainfield, and the people of North Plainfield know it and have time after time acknowledged their appreciation.

Here are six important things that Ball-Kirch Post has brought out to the benefit of its community of six thousand people:

1. Instrumental in securing the gift of a large plot of ground in the center of the town from a wealthy resident on which was erected a twenty-four ton trap-rock boulder brought from the nearby mountains. A handsome bronze tablet was placed on the rock containing the names of departed comrades. A city park was created out of this plot of ground.

2. Instrumental in convincing the town authorities of the advisability of purchasing a large hotel building on the main street, which was surrounded by smaller, ugly buildings. The small buildings were torn down and the large building remodelled. The second floor is rented by the Legion post, while the plots on which the smaller buildings had been standing were leveled and made into a beautiful terrace which adjoins the local firehouse and the town hall.

3. Developed bathing facilities at a nearby lake in which bathing had been prohibited on account of previous misconduct of bathers. The post secured exclusive permission to erect bath houses on the shore and floats on the lake, thereby affording citizens an opportunity to bathe at a small cost, at the same time maintaining discipline and proper conduct.

4. Instituted an annual community Christmas party for the children of the town. At the Christmas party last December, eight hundred children were present. A musical and military program was enjoyed and over \$300 worth of gifts distributed, the post financing the entire undertaking. Scores of letters were received from citizens pledging their support hereafter in all Legion post activities.

5. The post community monthly magazine, "The Bugle," started last April with a circulation of 150 (one for each post member) but now has a circulation of over 500 and is growing rapidly because it is a community publication as well as for ex-service men. It is run by Legion men entirely, the editor being one of the officers of the post. A wonderful future for "The Bugle" is assured. It has been entered as second-class mail matter and is sold on the newsstands of the town.

6. Instituted an annual carnival of high standing and reputation on which the citizens of the town can depend for a clean performance. The carnival last year brought out more than the entire population of North Plainfield, netted the post sufficient funds for other com-

munity service activities, and afforded pleasure and clean entertainment to the citizens of the town.

Here is what the mayor says of Ball-Kirch Post: "These boys have demonstrated what a wonderful asset they

IS your town a better place to live in because it has a Legion post? What has your post done to prove its practical and unselfish interest in its community? The letters published on this page are in answer to those questions. This magazine wants more like them. Address Community Cooperation Editor, The American Legion Weekly, 627 West 43d Street, New York City.

are to our town. Let's co-operate with them and stand behind them in all their undertakings and make North Plainfield a bigger and better community."
—EDWARD F. BODIN, *Historian, Ball-Kirch Post, North Plainfield, N. J.*

LEGION ADOPTS CIVIC PROGRAM

LOCAL POST TAKES STAND FOR CITY IMPROVEMENT

Recommends Practical and Inexpensive Things for Betterment of Elkhorn

1922 Program of the Harry E. Kelly Post No. 45 for Civic Improvement in the City of Elkhorn

- 1—Flood a lot for a municipal ice skating rink.
- 2—Work for swimming pool.
- 3—Establish a tourist camp.
- 4—Furnish a rest room for women.
- 5—Erect a suitable memorial for the author of "The Sweet Bye and Bye."
- 6—Attempt to secure additional industries in this city.

The most forward step ever taken by any one organization in the city of Elkhorn was taken by the Harry E. Kelly Post of the American Legion at the regular meeting at the post rooms last Tuesday night. The Legion will

When a post adopts a community program as promising as the one this Wisconsin post has pledged itself to fulfill it doesn't have to fight to get on the front page of the local newspaper

A Legion Fire Department

THIS post is small in numbers but strong in the belief that it should play a large part in the community life. The service of our members did not end with the war, and to what better end could we put the things we had learned in uniform than in maintaining a well-organized, well-disciplined fire department? The town of Marfa has no water system, and needed an organization that could be instantly warned in case of fire and make use of the fire extinguishers available in almost every store in town.

The post's offer was presented to the mayor and the city council and was at once accepted. On the night of last Memorial Day the members of the post lined up, listened to a speech by the mayor, and then were duly sworn in and presented with firemen's badges.

The post then gave a local talent show the proceeds of which went to purchase an electric fire-alarm siren which can be heard a mile and a half in all kinds of weather. The post is now planning to install a truck completely equipped for fire fighting, supply gas masks and equip a fire house, all without donations from the merchants of the city.

Members of the post are required by the post to wear their fire badges at all times. Woe to the man who is caught without one, for he must then contribute to the gimmie fund maintained by the post. The commander of the post, a local clergyman, is also chief of our Legion fire department.

This co-operation between the Legion and the citizens of Marfa brought about on Armistice Day a condition equalled in few cities in the country. The post took charge of the program and saw to it that citizens, school children and men stationed at the army camp nearby were well represented on the program. Flags were at half mast, and every merchant in town closed his doors until sunset, putting in his window a card furnished by the post which read: "Closed in memoriam unidentified American dead, November 11th."

This goes to show what can be done when a post of our Legion realizes that its duty in times of peace can be summed up in the following rules:

1. Believe in your home town.
 2. Work with the citizens who could not go into the trenches.
 3. Embrace all opportunities to be helpful.
 4. Realize that service is your slogan.
- WILLIAM F. WENDT, *Carroll Farmer Post, Marfa, Tex.*

In the Moonshine Belt

WE have a live post down here in the moonshiners' haunts of the Kentucky mountains and we don't mind letting all the Legionnaires know what
(Continued on page 26)

BURSTS AND DUDS

Payment is made for original material suitable for this department. Unavailable manuscript will be returned only when accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelope

The Suspense Is Awful

The hangman was having difficulty in adjusting the noose on account of the condemned man's nervous contortions.

"Come, now, my lad," jocosely spoke up the painless exterminator. "This will never do. You'll have to get more into the swing of the thing."

And Prohibition, of Course

Things we hear a lot about but never meet:

Income Tax Deductions
A Side-Splitting Comedy
Good Morning, Judge
All Men Are Created Free and Equal.

Forward the Flight Brigade

The commander of the Steenth Infantry pored over his recently-arrived operations order while the cold sweat rolled off his brow. Here is what he read:

"Your organization will proceed immediately from Toul to Metz, returning before midnight to Nancy for additional equipment; thence to a point fifty kilometers north and return, reporting accomplishment to the Commanding General before day-break."

"Sweet cookie!" breathed the colonel. "Here, orderly, bring my sharpest razor and have the adjutant read this to the men."

"Beg pardon, sir," replied the dog robber, "but that's the order for the Umptieth Pursuit Squadron of airplanes."

And thus a ghastly military suicide was averted.

Hazardous Risk

Lazy Luke: "It tells here in de paper about a guy what was murdered in his wardrobe."

Nervous Ned: "Oh, dat's turrible. An' to t'ink dat I'm sittin' right in de middle of mine at dis moment!"

Never Start Anything, Etc.

The Dear Old Lady: "My poor man, how did you ever come to be in durance vile?"

Second Story Sid: "Well, I guess, ma'am, it was because de cop what was chasin' me had endurance viler."

Hooray!

"Does this train make any stops between here and Philadelphia?" asked a rather ragged passenger who had come aboard at New York.

"None whatever," replied the conductor

with pride. "This is a through express—wouldn't stop for anything."

"That's all right, then," returned the passenger, settling back in his seat with a relieved air. "You can put me off when we get to Philly. I haven't any ticket."

Justifiable

"I presume you are very particular about observing the conventions of the game," remarked the Easterner as he settled down for a sociable little game of stud in Tombstone, Arizona.

"We're all of that," replied the Western dealer genially. "When any stranger gets too far ahead we always shoots him on the spot."

Automatic

"Our dining room is being decorated in spatter work."

"Spatter work?"

"Yes. We have grapefruit for breakfast every morning."

Cautious

"Do you believe in love at first sight, Mr. Fussler?" asked a rather old young girl to whom the bashful bachelor had just been introduced.

"Theoretically I do," he replied, edging away, "but in practice I find it better to take a second look."

There Are Waterloos

"Whenever we have a run-in with a traffic cop, I let my wife do the talking."

"Does that do any good?"

"Not a bit, except to convince her she can't win every argument she gets into."

Fair Warning

"No, Harold," said the only girl in the world. "I can never be your wife, but I will be a sister to you."

"All right, Sis," replied the young man flippantly, getting up and dusting his knees. "But I'll tell you right now you want to be mighty careful who you ring in on me as a brother-in-law."

Painful Extraction

Woods: "I'm glad to hear what you say about my uncle's loyalty during the war. It's true, then, that he always gave until it hurt?"

Brooks: "You bet it's true. Every time he dug down into his pocket after a nickel it hurt."

A Dirty Crack

"We had not been hunting long," began a sportsman boastfully, "when my rifle cracked and there lay a rabbit dead at my feet."

"Had it been dead long?" asked his skeptical friend.

Silly Thing to Ask

Traveler: Quick, gimme a round-trip ticket."

Station Agent: "Where to?"

Traveler: "Back here, of course. Where-jaspose?"

Mum

Bill: "Is it possible to confide a secret in you?"

Phil: "Certainly. I will be as silent as the grave."

Bill: "Well, then, I have pressing need for two bucks."

Phil: "Worry not, my friend. It is as if I had heard nothing."

Suggestions of a Doughboy

Being the Suggestions of a Doughboy on the Manner of Conducting the Next War, Together with Certain Reflections on the Conduct of the Last One.

13. That there are a number of simpler methods that could be adopted by the War Department for supplying its various offices with scratch paper than that of requiring company commanders about to embark with their men for the United States to submit fourteen copies of the passenger list.

(To be continued)

Ins and Outs

"Business ain't nothing like the Army," complained an old-timer. "In a business office you walk right into the room marked 'General,' but you gotta keep out of the one with 'Private' on the door."

A Comparison

"Your voice this morning makes me think of my dear wife."

"Your wife?"

"Yes, it's so husky."

Quick Lunch

Pig and a hen chatting together on the railroad tracks.

Toot-toot!

Ham and eggs.



art
helfant

THE LEGION LIBRARY

Through the medium of The American Legion Weekly, The American Legion expects to assemble a complete library covering the field of American activity in the World War. It is intended ultimately to assemble this library in a room of its own, preferably at National Headquarters. Books received in the office of this magazine for inclusion in the library are listed on receipt, and in most cases noticed in reviews.

Blue and Gray*



YOU are prejudiced in favor of the 29th Division history at the first glance. The sober, self-respecting blue and gold binding recalls the businesslike divisional and corps histories of the Civil War rather than the class album type of to-

day, and the letterpress and paper are on a par with the binding. There are others more showy and elaborate; but few of them are as appropriate in general make-up, and, taking all things together, the general appearance of the book is the finest of any divisional history that has yet appeared.

One thing after another strikes your attention later on to justify this first favorable impression. First of all, the editors have had a clear idea of what they thought a divisional history should be; it is a good idea, moreover, and has been carried out. Their way of telling the story has been to treat the division as a whole, rather than to give separately the adventures of its various organizations. To prevent the account from being too general, from falling back to the perspective of division headquarters, the editors have quoted freely from highly unofficial stories provided by smaller organizations—little private manuscript histories of infantry companies, artillery batteries, etc., etc., written up on their own account, each in its own way, but all of them very free and easy, straightforward and so to speak very front line. (The 29th, we may add, seems to have drawn an unusually high proportion of men who could be detailed off on historical police duty and make a good job of it.) These accounts the editors have not used as "material" but have quoted word for word, in fair-sized chunks. Nobody can be quite as convincing as these buck-historians. They pass up the judgment of posterity, and manage to recount an experience as it was actually felt—to tell a fight as it appeared at the time, before being ruled up and squared off by official records.

The division's work in action is given not in general outline but in detail—inning by innung with the doings of each unit which came up to bat. It is made all the more telling by interweaving, as they bear on the story, the citations won during the particular action described. This is effective in more ways than one. It stiffens up the text, for one thing, and goes to show that the statements made are facts rather than mere language. Citations, ordinarily, however dead in earnest to those concerned, do not make very interesting reading. Set forth, in this way, as a part of the fight which called them forth, they mean something even to the outside reader, and become tenfold more valuable as a record of things done worth remembering.

This general combination of the headquarters and the rank and file, the official and the personal standpoints, makes the history of the 29th particularly interesting to its own public, the men of the division, and particularly deserving of their support. The editors have done one thing which no other divisional history has yet attempted, in giving a complete divisional roster, with the names of every officer and man who be-

longed to the organization at any time—42,000 in all.

As an official record, the book is careful and precise; some people at least will note the fact that the illustrations of the Verdun battlefield are pinned down to the exact spot by co-ordinates, instead of passed off with a fancy title. One of the first tests of a divisional history is whether or not it gives the text of field orders covering its important operations. None so far has given a fuller and more nearly complete series than we have here; and an excellent reproduction of a 20,000 plan director covers the whole area in which the division fought.

The 29th was born and raised at Camp McClellan, under the eye of General Charles G. Morton, who saw the thing through to the end. Its men came from New Jersey, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, so that their division had a good right to the name of the Blue and Gray—the more so in that they were all next-door neighbors. During the eight or nine months in camp, the division went through the usual trials of sifting out and welding together various National Guard organizations, but the job was evidently thoroughly done. This was followed up in France by an unusually thorough training period in a quiet sector in Alsace—nearly two months of it, which left the sector much less quiet than before, and left the division well prepared for the test that was coming—for going into action for the first time in so stiff a sector as the Verdun battlefield.

The 29th Division is one of those whose hard work has not been properly appreciated by Americans in general. None of the fighting east of the Meuse has been, in fact. The 29th had to jump off from the line where the French counter-offensives had frozen down in 1917, and venture forth across one of the most highly organized and completely cheved-up and shell-cratered sectors of the Western Front. What is more, it got across—gaining eight kilometers of trenches, stellungs and tangled hills—and kept on at the job, at a very hot corner, during the generally hot second phase of the Meuse-Argonne, for twenty days without asking for relief. For a first battle this makes a pretty good record, and although it was their only battle, the men of the 29th have a right to claim that it put the division at once into the Combat Class.

As a test it was all the more difficult because the division had to go to work sandwiched in between French outfits and more or less under their orders, on a mixed-up inter-Allied basis. This was necessarily a difficult basis, but the 29th not only got ahead, but also got along well with its French neighbors and French higher echelons. Instead of complaints and difficulties, the history sets forth with warm appreciation the skill of the French officers with whom the 29th had to deal. Likewise with regard to its own affairs; in referring to its officers, its relations to other American organizations and authorities, and its general experiences of life between Camp McClellan and Verdun, this account of the 29th shows a fine tone—free from grouching, knocking or complaining, and equally free from a boasting or advertising attitude toward itself. The whole spirit of the book, in fact, is singularly fine. It has preserved in retrospect and in civilian dress, so to speak, the true attitude which every organization should have toward itself and its work. The Honor Roll of the 29th, to mention one little example, is not filed away in an appendix, but set forth handsomely at the head of its history.

T. H. THOMAS.



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*HISTORY OF THE 29TH DIVISION, by John A. Cutchins, Lt. Col., G. S., A. E. F., A. C. of S. G-2, 29th Division, assisted by George Scott Stewart, Jr., Lt. Col., A. C. D., Division Adjutant. Obtainable through Mr. Stewart at 4206 Walnut st., Philadelphia. Press of MacCalla & Co., Philadelphia.



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Casuals

(Continued from page 7)

lowed inside; but as time passed and few of my men appeared, the entrance began to be clogged with impatient officers waiting to send their own outfits through. A thousand detachments, so it seemed, wished to be deloused that morning. Colonels and majors stamped up and down outside the door.

"Come, Lieutenant, come now, better get those men of yours out of there. Hurry up, now, I want to get my men through."

Goaded on, I forced my way into the steaming interior. The sight that met my eyes was terrific. A hundred naked colored men were being shunted and barged around by a huge man with a stick who kept on urging them to "hurry up and git on outa here." Many of them had lost their tickets and could get no clothes to leave in. I addressed one forlorn group that was huddled together like a lot of sheep.

"Are you in Casual Company No. 9999?"

Their faces were delightfully blank. I repeated the question. One man ventured a feeble no, then he followed that with an equally feeble yes, and ended by declaring that he didn't know.

"Well, who is your commanding officer?"

No luck. I could see that one or two thought General Pershing might be, but weren't sure.

"Well, am I your officer? Am I?"

"Ah dunno. Ah dunno him."

"Well, blast it, look at me, look at me! Did you ever see me before?"

One man weakly guessed that he had, and then re-guessed that he hadn't. They were the most uncertain bunch I had ever seen. And all the while the man with the stick was urging them insistently at the top of his lungs:

"Now, then, youse'll hafta git on outa here."

Which indeed was all they wanted to do could they but procure something to clothe their bodies.

How we ever got them all out I do not know. Most of them lacked socks, underclothes and some even had no leggings. But somehow we assembled a hundred and fifty colored men and marched them back to Section 27, where more trouble in the shape of general orders awaited us.

How I began to hate those general orders. Every day brought a batch of them with endless forms to be filled up and regulations to be complied with. This particular order declared that no outfit could embark unless it had made out Form No. 654, employment classification cards. These were to be fully made up, endorsed by the commanding officer and handed in at Headquarters, with receipts to be given for same. Wearily we lined the company up and went through the agony of questions.

"Where do you live?"

"Alabama."

"Yes, yes, but where in Alabama?"

"Yassuh, jest Alabama."

"Yes, but what town? What city, Birmingham?"

"Nossuh, Claiborne."

"Claiborne. Is that the name of the town or county?"

"Ah dunno, suh. Ah think it's de name of de town."

"All right. What's your mother's maiden name? Her name before she was married, you know."

This never drew anything but a blank look. Even when we asked their father's name we seldom had any luck. When we did, it was to find that as a rule it did not correspond with their own. They usually said whatever came first into their heads. Of the date of their birth they had not, of course, the foggiest idea. We guessed it and let it go at that.

"What do you wish to do after you leave the Army?"

"Ah reckons Ah'd like to be a pullman poteh, suh."

Or something like this:

"Ah hears they's a school for pullman potehs, suh."

"No, no, that's a mistake. Who started that silly rumor? There's no such school run by the Government."

"Well, den, jest put me down pullman poteh, Lootenant."

One and all the answer was the same. Whether they had worked in factories or mines or grocery stores before the war, they all wanted to be "pullman potehs," on return.

Meanwhile, the days came and the days went: ships large and small came and went; but we stayed on, apparently forever. At last another pay day swung into view, and by this time my charges had earned enough money to turn the company street that night into a vast game of African golf. At ten there were five games going on, at eleven there were four still in progress, and at midnight there were still two large groups playing by the light of a lantern. It was shortly after midnight that a courier came down from Headquarters with the news that we would embark the next morning on the *Imperator!* Along with this welcome news was a series of general orders to the effect that all companies embarking would be inspected at ten a. m. the next day, and that the men would line up in alphabetical order as they went on board the ship. My heart sank as I read this last. How could they line up in alphabetical order when most of them knew neither the alphabet or their own names?

At four a. m. we pried Jelly Roll with a huge hunk of bills from one of the crap games. Slowly we unfolded our idea. We—that is the three officers concerned—had printed a series of numbers ranging from one to one hundred and fifty on small squares of cardboard. Each man was to wear a square of this around his neck on a string, and we figured that as the numbers were arranged according to the men's names on the alphabet we would be able, with Jelly Roll's help, to keep them in position. To make sure we lined the company up and explained the situation.

If any of them understood what it was all about, they gave no signs. However, we distributed the pieces of cardboard, threatening any man who lost his number with permanent exile in France. Then we did the same thing with pieces of paper and ordered them to carry these in their hands. We hoped this would act as a check on the cardboard squares, and then we proceeded to elaborate what the men must not do on embarking. Several outfits had been left behind because they had hinted in a tactless way that the Marines or the Military Police had won the war; one even had been refused

passage because its members had waved a too fond farewell to the ladies of Brest who hung out of the windows in the houses along the streets to the docks. Mum was to be the word if we could manage it, and we conveyed the impression that to speak was to forfeit one's chances of leaving France.

At nine that morning we lined them up. A motley assemblage, engineers, infantry, signal corps, pioneers, artillery and labor battalions. Their appearance was still more incongruous, for banjos, mandolins, guitars, accordions, ukuleles and trombones were to be seen sticking out of their packs among the thousand and one articles of equipment that they were obliged to carry by regulations. Brown, who somehow found time to read the avalanche of general orders that poured in upon us daily, announced that if such instruments were found it was likely that the entire outfit would be sentenced to remain forever in the land of cognac. He went up and down the line shouting that they must be hidden or else thrown away. A hasty readjusting of packs until in ten minutes they looked more like a battalion of the Egyptian Camel Corps than a casual company in the American army. However, anything to pass inspection!

Then as I walked down the line fixing a pack here, straightening out a hump there, I saw a forlorn-looking private in the rear rank leading a small, mangy dog by a string. My heart sank, for I loved dogs. But I also loved my home. "Look here, don't you know that animals are not to be taken home by anyone?"

"Yassuh, Ah knows dat, Lootenant, but Ah's gota puhmit."

"A what?"

"Yassuh, a puhmit." And with that he pulled out of an inside pocket a dingy, crumpled piece of paper which stated that in accordance with G. O. 241, Hq. A. E. F., June 20, 1919, Private William Smith, 9999 Casual Company, had been accorded permission to transport to the United States one dog, male, spotted black and white.

I handed it back with an inward prayer that it had not been forged. Such a thing was not outside the range of Jelly Roll's capacity. Then Brown came running up.

"See that man?"

I glanced down the line to where he pointed. Sticking up over the overseas hats of the other men as the Woolworth Building would stick up over the houses of Spartanburg, S. C., was a man wearing a campaign hat.

Angrily I approached him.

"Do you want to keep us all in France? Don't you know it's strictly against regulations to wear a campaign hat in France?"

"Yassuh, Ah knows that; but mah eyes is weak, Ah gotta wear dis hat." And he, too, pulled a dingy piece of paper out of his pocket that was stamped and signed by some medical officer and gave him the permission to wear the hat in accordance with some general order that I had never heard of. I handed the paper back. I was beaten.

We had been inspected and passed! Happily we tramped down the road from the camp to Brest, through the narrow, cobblestoned streets of the dirty old town which we prayed we were seeing for the last time. Between sloping alleyways we got glimpses of



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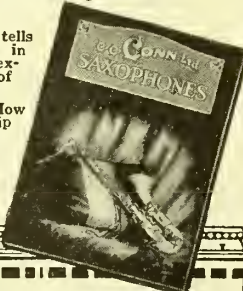
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the *Imperator* at anchor far out in the roads. The sight almost unnerved us, but not a word was uttered. We might have been a company of dumb mutes.

"Au 'voir, au 'voir," shouted the French women from above. Not a face turned, not a muscle moved, not a mouth opened. I breathed a sigh of relief. We were going to get by!

Slowly we swung down by the water front. Waits of interminable hours brought not a sound from my company.

On into the lighter at last. Gently we swung out in the tide and edged over toward the ship. Not a word or a murmur until we had all climbed aboard the vast mass towering above us. Then and then only was the silence broken. It was Temporary Sergeant Jelly Roll who leaning far over the rail, shook his fist at the unoffending city.

"France," he said, "France, Ah sure does hope Ah never do see you no mo'."

The Hospital Program Crisis

(Continued from page 8)

While hospital beds for 6,000 disabled men will probably become available this year under the \$18,600,000 appropriation, it is apparent from the foregoing facts that this new construction will supply only a fraction of the hospital accommodations needed.

These figures deal with dollars and beds. Now, what of the human factor? How does the present situation affect the disabled ex-service men of the country? The answer is this:

Thousands of ex-service men now wandering in the borderland of insanity will become incurably insane unless the Government quickly provides new and adequate hospital facilities to take care of them.

Thousands of other ex-service men who are in the earlier stages of tuberculosis probably will die prematurely unless the Government furnishes soon the added special hospital facilities necessary to promote the recovery of those suffering with this disease.

What is the Government doing to have 35,000 beds ready by 1925? What is it doing to take the 9,000 men out of the contract hospitals? What is it doing to provide new hospitals to replace the unsuitable wartime hospitals still in use? What must the Government still do? These are questions of vital importance.

First of all, let it be stated that in spite of the delayed progress in carrying out the \$18,600,000 program, that program still constitutes one of the hopes for the immediate future. The 6,000 beds it will provide before the end of this year will practically all be available for mental and tubercular cases, and it is these which are suffering most because of the present situation.

And in spite of the delays in the \$18,600,000 program, The American Legion has extended its confidence to those placed in charge of the work of selecting the sites for the twenty projects under that appropriation and of deciding on the kinds of institutions that should be built. That work is being carried out by a committee of expert consultants appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury at the request of the Legion. This committee, known as the White Committee, takes its name from its chairman, Dr. William Charles White, of Pittsburgh, Pa. The other members are Dr. F. K. Billings, Dr. George H. Kirby and John G. Bowman.

The Rehabilitation Committee of the Legion, whose chairman is A. A. Sprague of Chicago, has expressed its full commendation of the work done thus far by the White Committee and has recognized that the delays have been caused by factors which were beyond the consultants' control.

The Kansas City National Convention of the Legion indorsed whole-

heartedly the work of the White Committee and recommended that it should not end its labors with the completion of the \$18,600,000 program, but should continue to draw up plans for the continuance of hospital construction.

The extension of the hospital program is once more up to Congress for decision. At this writing there is pending the new Langley Bill, H. R. 8791, to appropriate an additional \$16,000,000 for new construction. Hearings on the bill have been held before the Public Buildings Committee of the House.

The American Legion has insisted at these hearings that the mistakes and delays experienced in the \$18,600,000 program shall be avoided in the new program. Chairman Sprague of the Legion's Rehabilitation Committee has indorsed the proposal, contained in the bill, that Director Forbes of the Veterans Bureau shall have sole charge of the whole new program. He also has recommended that the White Committee shall continue to serve in an advisory capacity. He has opposed the suggestion that the Federal Board of Hospitalization, headed by the President's personal representative, Brig. Gen. Charles E. Sawyer, shall have jurisdiction in the new program.

Mr. Sprague has contended that the history of the \$18,600,000 appropriation is eloquent testimony that divided authority is the father of the two bureaucratic twins, delay and red tape, and that only by giving Director Forbes full authority to select sites and design and build hospitals in the quickest time possible can the mistakes of the past be avoided. Director Forbes, speaking for himself, has told the Congressional Committee that he believes that, inasmuch as the responsibility for making use of the new buildings rests upon him, he should have absolute authority in determining where those hospitals shall be and what they shall be like. The Congressional Committee has shown that it agrees with the main proposals of the \$16,000,000 appropriation bill. At this writing, however, it is still uncertain whether the White Committee will be authorized to assist Director Forbes or whether the Committee will grant the request of Brig. Gen. Sawyer and give his committee advisory jurisdiction.

The Legion's interest in this bill primarily is based upon the belief that it will provide new hospitals in the shortest time possible. It takes Director Forbes at his word. He is a professional constructing engineer and has promised that by efficiency methods he can construct standardized new hospitals of all types at a speed that will establish new records.

The Legion, therefore, will watch developments with interest. It sees

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in the new program a race against time. While tuberculosis and neuro-psychiatric diseases are creating new casualties daily, architects and engineers and contractors, mobilized for a supreme effort, will be duplicating with enduring hospital buildings the achievements of those who during the war rushed to completion the temporary structures needed in the camps.

The necessity for speed will constantly be before them. For instance, they will know that the rate of insanity among ex-service men is three times that among civilians of the same ages and classes in peacetime. They will know that new cases of tuberculosis among ex-service men are developing rapidly and that each month brings in its new quota of tuberculosis casualties for government care.

The need for quick action on the new program is proved by the figures showing the increase and distribution of ex-service men patients during the last year and a half. These figures follow:

	Sept. 1920	March 1921	Feb. 1922
Public Health Service hospitals	9,510	12,670	16,373
Army hospitals.....	491	622	1,681
Navy hospitals.....	44	206	1,059
Soldiers' Home hospitals	1,461	1,593	2,500
Dept. of the Interior Hospital (St. Elizabeth's, Washington, D. C.).....	667	714	
Contract hospitals.....	8,347	9,240	9,013
Totals	20,698	25,045	30,145

Still more significant, perhaps, are the figures contained in the following table showing the increases in the numbers of neuro-psychiatric and tuberculosis patients during the last year and a half.

	Sept. 1920	March 1921	Feb. 1922
Neuro-psychiatric	5,970	6,786	8,833
Tuberculosis	8,394	10,087	11,698
Medical and surgical..	6,334	8,172	9,614
Totals	20,698	25,045	30,145

At this time, perhaps, it would be unprofitable to try to place any single blame for the non-completion of the \$18,600,000 program, but an explanation of some of the factors which caused delay has a direct bearing upon the new program.

Accompanying this article is a chart showing the progress made to date on each of the twenty projects. It should be understood that money for each of these was allocated, in the amounts stated on the chart, by the White Committee after a great deal of work, selecting sites and deciding upon types of buildings. In the selection of sites, the claims of hundreds of cities and Congressional districts had to be considered. It appeared that every State seemed to believe it was entitled to a lion's share of the new buildings. Delegations visited Washington. Barrels of petitions were received. Congressmen made recommendations, usually at variance with the judgment of the consultants. The process of elimination and selection of all the property offered took a great deal of time.

Further time was consumed, in many of the projects, in acquiring sound title to property selected. This work was



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done by the Department of Justice. In several instances the letting of contracts and the starting of work had to be postponed for as long as six months while court actions were being taken to clear up titles.

The part played by the Supervising Architect's office of the Treasury Department in carrying out the \$18,600,000 figures in a controversy. This office drew plans for most of the buildings and supervised construction. It conducted much of the work on the purchase and hire system—its own building superintendents purchasing materials and hiring labor "on the job." Building hospitals is only one of the many activities which the Supervising Architect's office directs. It also makes plans for and builds postoffices and other Federal buildings.

The Supervising Architect asserts that his office has handled the hospital building project as expeditiously as possible under the circumstances. He cites the fact that the men in his office worked ten hours a day and went without vacations to insure the completion of plans on time. Director Forbes has indicated his willingness to continue to use the facilities of this office so far as is advisable for the new program, but he asks that he not be handicapped by restrictions to prevent him using outside agencies if necessary. He also is opposed to the purchase and hire system and states that he will let contracts outright to builders, with penalty clauses to insure completion by the dates desired.

The Legion's main objective at this moment is the passage of the second Langley Bill. It regards this as the keynote of the whole future hospitalization program. The Veterans Bureau is effecting many changes in its administrative system, is inaugurating a dispensary system throughout the country and is doing other things which are expected to make simpler and more efficient the task of caring for the disabled. But right now, the big need is more hospitals. And they must be built fast.

Help Your Disabled Buddy

THE queries given below are printed in behalf of disabled men seeking to get in touch with comrades whose aid is necessary to substantiate claims for government compensation. This magazine will publish further inquiries from men seeking proofs of disabilities incurred in service, but can do so only after the usual means of obtaining the information have failed.

EDWARD E. ADKINS, Nevada, Mo., would like to hear from Ex-Sgt. G. Ernest Estes, formerly with Evac. Hosp. No. 1.

IVAN A. BOLTON, 1415 Sylvania ave., Toledo, O., wishes to get in touch with Guy Wheaton, formerly 2d Lieut. with the Americans at Feltwell Aerodrome, T. D. S. No. 7.

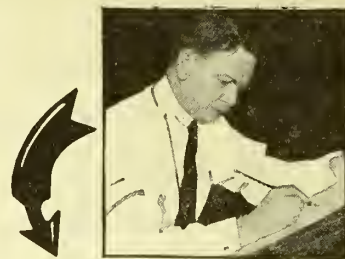
R. F. FORESMAN, Pawnee, Okla., wishes to learn whereabouts of Joseph C. Jobe.

HARRY E. JOHNSON, 2420 Central ave., Indianapolis, Ind., wishes to communicate with James E. Cole, formerly of Co. H, 75th Inf., 13th Div., or Alex. Whitaker, Co. G, 1st Inf.

G. R. JONES, 393 E. Central ave., Delaware, O., wishes to locate Sgt. Joe P. Jaeger, Sgt. Glenn C. Walker, and Sgt. Claude P. Eslinger.

GEORGE E. LEHMAN, 326 Way ave., Kirkwood, Mo., wishes to get in touch with Lieut. Berton, former commander of 6th Prov. Squadron, Wilbur Wright Field, Dayton, O.

CHARLES VINCENT, 9 Queen st., Lowell, Mass., disabled and unable to remember names of his former comrades, wishes to hear from former members of D. Co., 39th Inf. who were at the Royal Hotel in July, 1918, or at Base Hosp. No. 1 in Aug., Sept., or Oct., 1918, or at Base Hosp. No. 117 for gassed and shell-shocked patients.



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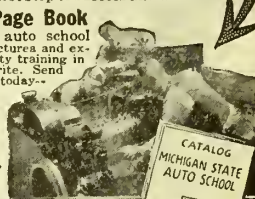
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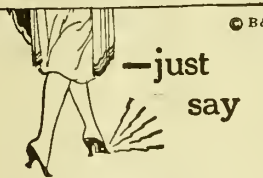
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Poison Gas and Poison Pens—Compensation's Foes Grow Desperate

(Continued from page 6)

garding the matter to a hundred of your friendliest customers would no doubt help considerably.

The various trade associations are carrying on their propaganda as far as possible beneath the surface of public attention. But the anti-compensation newspapers are showing no such modesty. Every Legionnaire by this time must be familiar with this phase of the anti-compensation drive. The newspapers which have been leading the drive have gone to extraordinary lengths. The "bonus," as the headlines call it, has suddenly become the same kind of a menace that Germany was during the war. American ex-service men have displaced the Germans as the target for unparalleled editorial and news enmity. The anti-compensation press is giving more space to attacks on the Legion's bill than was given to the recent disarmament conference. Flaring headlines on front pages, long articles from Washington correspondents, column after column of editorials, cartoon after cartoon, solid pages, almost, of letters opposing compensation—day after day these newspapers have sounded their alarm gongs against the Legion's bill. Misrepresentation and sophistry stand out in every issue.

The press of New York City which is often represented as the tuning fork which sets in vibration the sounding board of the whole nation's opinion has been especially virulent in its opposition. The reason probably is that it is closest to the heart of the New York financial district.

The *Herald*, the *Sun*, the *Telegram*, the *World*, the *Times*, the *Globe* and the *Post* have been crusading with a zeal reminiscent of the war days. The first three newspapers, which have violated every principle of fair play in their attacks on compensation, are owned by Frank A. Munsey. Mr. Munsey is reputed to be one of the heaviest holders of stock in the United States Steel Corporation. The good taste of Mr. Munsey's stand is left to any reader for judgment.

Outside New York, the newspaper attacks have had less force. The fact that public opinion is overwhelmingly for the Legion's bill has received recognition, and most papers in New England, the Middle West, the South and the West preserve the semblance of fair play. It should also be stated here that the pro-compensation *American*, *Journal* and *Daily News* in New York City have a combined circulation surpassing that of all the New York anti-compensation papers mentioned. In Chicago the opposition is offset by the *Tribune* and the *American*.

The newspaper attacks have been so violent that they have largely defeated their purpose. The *Providence Journal*, for example, is busy just now trying to restore itself to a place in the respect of veterans after publishing a cartoon labeled "Is This What He Died For?" The cartoon showed a soldier dead on the battlefield with an inset of a group of ex-service men clamoring "We want the money." This cartoon has inspired dozens of condemnatory resolutions by many organizations. Rival newspapers



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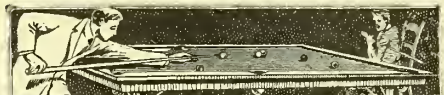
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have also republished it with denunciations.

So extreme have the newspaper attacks been that many of the small group of ex-service men opposed to compensation have become compensation converts. Publication of an article quoting the automobile interests as opposing compensation caused one ex-service man to write this letter to the editor of the *Evening Post* in New York City

Sir: I have always opposed the bonus for soldiers until today, when the automobile men and manufacturers of the country accuse the soldier of holding up the Treasury of the United States. Of all the people in the country, the automobile men and manufacturers should be the last to oppose the tax for a bonus. They are the very people who made the most profit out of the war. You don't hear the soldiers complain about the \$745,000,000 that was wasted on airplanes known in France as flaming coffins. I was in France and went through four major engagements and have spent twenty-six months in the hospital since, and from today on you can count me an advocate of the bonus. I will sign my name because I notice that most all who oppose the bonus do not, possibly because they did not help in the big game.

In all parts of the country ex-service men have been quick to reply to the vicious attacks being printed. They are writing letters to editors. And their simple testimony, like that quoted above, is far more effective than all the acres of type being used for the views of those who are opposed to the compensation bill because it will cost them money.

While the newspapers are branding ex-service men as "bonus beggars" and "bonus blackmailers," the forced campaign of letter writing against compensation is being pursued by the interests opposed to the measure. The stock tickers, the circulars of brokers to their customers, the propaganda being sent out by all the big trade associations contain the same urge: "Write to the President, to your senators, to your representatives. Write yourself. Have your employees write. Have your friends write. Have your customers write."

The artificial expressions of sentiment thus inspired do not, of course, measure in volume with the honest letters in support of compensation being sent to Washington by friends of the measure. The principal objection to letter writing by opponents proceeds from methods being followed in some instances to force persons to write against their will.

The affidavit printed at the head of this article shows the gentle means by which one New York brokerage house persuaded its employees to register their opposition to compensation.

While the things described in the affidavit were happening in this particular Stock Exchange office, the employees of other stock and bond houses were being likewise requested to write letters. One newspaper—one of the two New York newspapers that mentioned this Wall Street activity—stated that word had been quietly given out to all members of the New York Stock Exchange that all member firms should have their employees throughout the country write letters to Washington. This phase of the campaign seemed to wane after it had attracted publicity.

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There is no doubt, however, that it increased the volume of Congressional mail and gave fuel to the anti-compensation propagandists. Letters bearing the stamp of Stock Exchange and banking offices and conspicuous for their similarity of wording were discovered by the Washington correspondents of anti-compensation newspapers and proudly printed as exhibits of the "popular clamor against the bonus."

Even this stimulation of penmanship did not seem to suffice, however, and there is grave doubt as to the authenticity of many of the protests which were printed. One letter, displayed conspicuously on the front page of an eastern newspaper, purported to be from a former lieutenant who, while he was jobless didn't want his honor tarnished with a "bonus." "The \$3,000,000,000 required for compensation would all be squandered in a month," read the letter. The address given was a lively stable at which the sender was unknown.

The most shameful of all efforts now being made to discredit ex-service men, however, is the attempt to prove that the compensation bill would cause the disabled to be neglected. Persons heretofore apparently indifferent have suddenly become extremely solicitous about the wounded. The *New York Sun* recently printed an editorial expressing its sentiments thus:

The American Government cannot well go too far in caring for our disabled soldiers, the sick, the crippled and the incapacitated. The heart of America goes out to all these and demands succor and the most humane solicitude and care for them. . . . The price of citizenship to the young man is the protection of his country. Soldiering is his job. It is not the job of his mother, his father or his sister. Soldiering is the job of the young man, and in this capacity he has play for the patriotism which is his birthright and that justifies his citizenship. Doing his duty calls for no bonus.

Of course, these newspapers do not discuss how much a young man should be paid for doing his duty. Nothing, presumably! "Altruistic soldiery, everybody else get all they can," apparently is the *New York Sun's* motto for a war. Meanwhile, the disabled man serves as a convenient shield against taxation for a just purpose.

Organizations purporting to represent groups of disabled veterans are given conspicuous places in the headlines when an anti-compensation purpose may be served. Investigations have shown that some of these organizations are skeletons of what they purport to be, consisting chiefly of a few officials in Washington, who issue bombastic statements against compensation at opportune moments. It is also notable that whenever hearings on the compensation bill figure in the news, photographs and stories of delegations of disabled men conferring with Government officials break into the pages at the same time.

Just now an amusing phase of this effort is developing in Washington. Secretary of the Treasury Mellon some time ago donated \$500 to an official of a disabled veterans' society who was establishing a magazine. Mr. Mellon has since announced that he did not know this editor-official intended to use his magazine to fight the Adjusted Compensation Bill. However, Mr. Mel-

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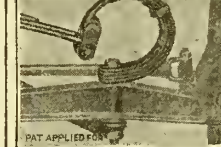
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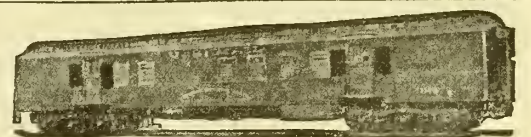
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lon's check was duly photographed and armed with a copy of it a solicitor of the magazine appeared in Pittsburgh, Mr. Mellon's home city, announcing that he was obtaining funds for the magazine in connection with the drive against compensation. Through some misunderstanding the solicitor was thrown into jail. The next day, after authorities investigated, he was released with apologies. Newspaper dispatches from Washington now announce that the solicitor is threatening to sue Mr. Mellon on charges growing out of his false arrest. Meanwhile magazines purporting to represent the disabled continue to circulate, and meanwhile, also the Rehabilitation Committee of The American Legion, the principal non-government agency accomplishing anything for the disabled, goes ahead assisting the program for new hospitals, betterment of conditions generally and full justice to every man who is incapacitated.

Most of the efforts to exploit the disabled are so obviously backed by selfish influences that this part of the anti-compensation drive really is of little importance. It is especially noteworthy that the newspapers which suddenly manifested a tenderness for the disabled in connection with the anti-compensation drive had previously seemed to consider the subject of no interest.

Every Legionnaire is familiar with the fifth effort to defeat the bill, by proposing that it shall be financed through special taxes of one kind or another which are bitterly opposed by large sections of the population. Many of the protests against these taxes have been heralded as "protests against the bonus." Thus, enemies of the measure keep insisting that both farmers and labor are hostile to the compensation bill. Samuel Gompers took cognizance of this misrepresentation by publicly stating that the Federation of Labor is a firm supporter of the compensation bill, but that it objects to one particular tax being used to raise the money. Spokesmen for the farmers' organizations have also expressed support of the Legion's bill while condemning some of the tax proposals. But opponents of the bill still keep conjuring up new unpopular taxes and are happy to see their proposals instantly blasted away by public disfavor.

All the foregoing facts show that the last minute effort to defeat the compensation bill really is well-organized and formidable. Whether the Legion with truth as its greatest ally can prevail now is undecided. But there is no doubt of the eventual decision of Congress. The soul and conscience of the nation cannot be weighted down with gold much longer.

Outfit Reunions and Notices

Contributions for this column must be received three weeks in advance of the events with which they are concerned.

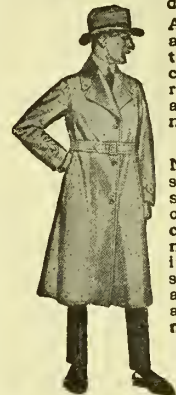
4TH DIVISION—Former members in Chicago or vicinity are requested to send names and addresses to Charles A. De Leuw, 1206 Conway bldg., Chicago, in connection with plans for Fourth Division Veterans Society.

CO. K, 305TH INFANTRY—Second annual reunion and dinner, Shanley's Restaurant, 117 W. 42d st., New York City, March 11. For information address M. I. Cohen, 846 Kelly st., Bronx, New York City.

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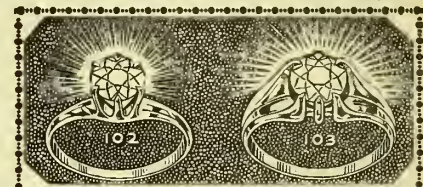
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Keeping Step with the Legion

(Continued from page 10)

the bright idea couldn't produce the goods. There certainly should have been. Anyone peddling a bright idea and then failing to produce deserves the worst punishment humanity can devise.

Last week we published a list of bright ideas put into effect by Legion posts and asked for more. That request stands—permanently. We are in the idea business, and in the wholesale end. We want ideas that are so good that they're worth passing on to every other post of the Legion. Ideas like these:

Linn Post of Preston, Kansas, sends out an individual letter announcement of coming meetings with a couple of holes cut in the paper through which a piece of ordinary string is looped and tied. The letter begins: "Remember when your mother used to tie a string around your finger when she sent you to the store? That little reminder worked then and it should work now, so here is the string and this is what you are to remember." The announcement of the meeting follows.

James Barry Post of Hemingford, Nebraska, sends membership prospects and interested citizens of the town a neat twelve-page booklet giving the Preamble to the Legion's Constitution, list of post and Auxiliary unit officials, a short sales talk and a catalogue of the post's achievements and future plans.

Lewis F. Tuttle Post of Anthony, Kansas, has appointed an official post photographer whose duties consist of taking pictures of all the activities of the post and putting them in a scrap book, together with all newspaper clippings recording events in the life of the post.

If you've done things like this, tell the Weekly about them.

A Parting Thought

THERE is the story (you may have forgotten it—we haven't heard it since we were three years old) of the man who was writing a letter and closed with the words: "I would write more but a big bum is looking over my shoulder." "You're a liar!" said the big bum, or words to that effect.

We feel somewhat as though we were in the position of the big bum in writing about dues this week. The Circulation Manager has already begun to use the axe on the Weekly's subscription list, and the chances are that the dues delinquent will not receive this copy of the Weekly, so that he won't be able to read what we say about dues. There is a chance, however, that the Circulation Manager hasn't got around to all the delinquents yet.

The Circulation Manager, being a soft-hearted person despite his rough and unshaven exterior (he uses some razor that doesn't advertise in the Weekly), is extremely lenient toward members who can't afford to pay their 1922 dues and yet think enough of the Legion and its magazine to write to him and explain. We have just received an unusually pathetic little note from a would-be treasury despoiler who

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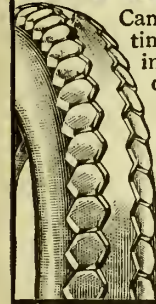
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I ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEE to teach you to play popular music within 3 weeks. I will give you all the secrets and tricks I have learned in my 10 years' success as a saw musician—secrets never before revealed and unknown to other musical entertainers. Very little practice required—it's all in knowing how.

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Amaze your friends with this remarkable new form of entertainment. You'll be the most popular person in your crowd. Your services will be in demand at Clubs, Lodges, Church Affairs and Dances all over the state. Your act will always be the big hit and you'll be paid as much money for a few minutes' entertaining as most men make in a day. Send today for complete free information, "How to Play a Saw."

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For Pipe, Cigar, Cigarette. No gasoline, benzine, or alcohol

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Quick Sales—Nice Profit

Everybody buys. Housewives, mechanics, electricians, jewelers, plumbers, tourists, automobilists, etc. No leak too bad to repair. Just apply a little "Soderese." light a match and seal it. Put up in handy metal tubes. Carry quantity right with you. Write for sample and special proposition to agents.

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\$215 In One Day

Bentley of Philadelphia made that. Hundreds making fortunes, too, with **Oliver Oil-Gas Burner**. Instant heat at a turn of valve. Makes big hit with every woman. No coal or wood. Burns 95% air, 5% kerosene. 1 minute to demonstrate. Sells itself. No wonder agents clean up in all seasons—many in spare time. **OLIVER OIL-GAS BURNER & MACHINE COMPANY, 2080-9 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo.**

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AGENTS 500% PROFIT

\$60—\$200 per week. Free samples **GOLD SIGN LETTERS** for store and office windows. Anyone can put them on. Big demand everywhere. Liberal offer to general agents.

METALLIC LETTER CO. 429-F N. Clark, Chicago

took up farming after the war and seems to be hopelessly involved in debt. "I couldn't pay my dues in the Legion this year because I didn't have it," he writes, "but I hope they won't put me out as I will pay it as soon as I get the money."

The Circulation Manager thinks the Legion might be interested to know how the leading departments stand in the subscription card race. Here are the five leaders, with the number of subscription cards received by the Weekly, as this issue goes to press on February 17th, in the second column, and in the last column the percentage of cards received to paid-up membership on December 31, 1921:

Pennsylvania.....	34,579	53
New York.....	27,787	37
Illinois.....	26,237	44
Ohio.....	25,690	58
Iowa.....	23,594	55

These States are leading only in the absolute totals of cards sent in, not in percentage of cards sent in to members enrolled last year. Next week, if room permits, we shall print a list of the leaders taken on a percentage basis.

Your Post and Your Town

(Continued from page 13)

we're doing. We have a lively program of Legion and community work lined up for 1922, having started the year by organizing a troop of Boy Scouts which the post will continue to foster. We have also succeeded in forming a business men's association for the betterment of the community in connection with our work for the schools during National Education Week.—F. E. BATES, Adjutant, Wayne County Post, Monticello, Ky.

Emphasizing the Holidays

LAST Memorial Day a detail from the Legion, accompanied by high school girls, visited every cemetery in the neighborhood as escort to the town's Civil War survivors, and placed a flag and scattered flowers over every soldier's grave. An inspection in 1920 showed that many graves were neglected and hard to find, and by Memorial Day last year all graves had been policed up.

On Armistice Day services were requested in all churches. Many did not go to church, so after warning all the people who had assembled, we arranged to sound the fire alarm at 11.55. This brought out all those who were not assembled to the "fire," and all marched to the village flagpole where taps was sounded and a two-minute silence observed.

Before Christmas we visited every organization, fraternal and civic, in town and asked for their co-operation, and also mailed out seventy-eight individual letters asking for help. We made up baskets for poor and needy families containing enough substantial food to last them one week. We organized Christmas carol singing, planted a twenty-foot Christmas tree in the town square that is now growing and is guaranteed to live.

The town park is policed by our post, and the post has active members on the town welfare committee. All the athletic sports in the town are furnished by our post.—CHARLES E. K. FRASER, Quentin Roosevelt Post, Oyster Bay, N. Y.

DIAMONDS-WATCHES

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Genuine Diamonds GUARANTEED

Our Diamonds are distinctive in fiery brilliancy, blue white, perfect cut. Sent prepaid for your free Examination, on CHARGE ACCOUNT.

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We Pay \$8 a Day

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Written guarantee with each pair to wear and give satisfaction or new hose free.

Year round Position

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Regular customers and repeat orders make you steady income. Hose for men, women and children, all styles, colors and finest line silk hose, all guaranteed. Low priced. No experience necessary. Write for samples.

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AGENTS: \$72 A WEEK



New Can't Clog Coal-Oil Burner Newest Invention

Most perfect burner ever invented. Intense blue flame. Can't clog up. Turns any coal or wood stove into a gas stove. Heats oven to baking point in 10 minutes. Cheapest fuel known. Low priced. Sells everywhere. Nothing else like it. Not sold in stores. Write quick for agency.

PARKER MFG. CO. 502 Coal St., Dayton, Ohio

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CLAXOPHONE

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